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# Castro Blames U.S. in Attack on Ship

HAVANA, Sept. 17 (UPI)—Premier Fidel Castro said today he believed the United States attacked the Spanish freighter Sierra de Aranzazu as an "act of revenge" because Spain trades with Cuba.

Castro was repeating an allegation made earlier by his Armed Forces Ministry. The Spanish ship was machine gunned off Cuba late Sunday night and set afire. Three crewmen were killed and eight injured. A Cuban exile group subsequently claimed it made the attack.

Castro told newsmen at a Mexican Embassy reception that survivors said the launches which carried out the attack were of a type carried by a "mother ship." He said the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), "has many (mother ships) around Cuba."

Havana Radio reported the shattered hulk of the Sierra de Aranzazu still was blazing in Nipe Bay, on Cuba's northern shoreline. It was towed there by Cuban tugs.

Castro said President Johnson might have ordered the attack on the Spanish ship to show that his Administration was "doing something" about Cuba.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Spanish Consulate said remaining Sierra de Aranzazu crewmen would be flown to Madrid before the weekend.